TRENDS

11/28/84
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ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICAN
RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, November 26, 1984 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended November 17 totaled an estimated 17.2 billion ton-miles, 2.3 percent below the corresponding week a year ago, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative traffic volume for the first 46 weeks of 1984 was an estimated 821.6 billion ton-miles, 11.3 percent higher than the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended November 17 totaled 377,807, down 4.6 percent from last year, and 3.0 percent below the preceding week of this year. Compared with last year, loadings were up 1.0 percent in the West, down 14.4 percent in the East, and down 2.8 percent in the South.

Compared with the corresponding week of 1983, 14 of the 21 commodity groups declined. However, loadings of crushed stone, gravel and sand were up by 1,679 cars (15.3 percent) and other farm products increased by 1,480 cars (36.8 percent). Sixteen of the 21 commodity groups decreased from the preceding week of this year.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended November 10 totaled 57,247 cars, up 17.8 percent from the corresponding week of 1983, and 93,776 trailers and/or containers, 8.7 percent higher than last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 45 weeks of the year was 2,332,385 cars, 14.9 percent higher than last year, and 3,987,807 trailers and/or containers, up 13.1 percent.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 11/17/84:

	Loadings in Week ended Nov. 17, 1984		Change from Corresponding Week 1983			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	31,076	D	184	0.6	I	3,660	13.3
Other farm products	5,502	I	1,480	36.8	D	1,268	23.0
Metallic ores	14,239	D	2,344	14.1	D	2,628	18.5
Coal	99,507	D	14,382	12.6	D	5,617	5.6
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	12,653	I	1,679	15.3	D	694	5.5
Nonmetallic minerals	10,692	D	513	4.6	D	297	2.8
Grain mill products	10,161	D	364	3.5	D	496	4.9
Food and kindred products	10,686	D	853	7.4	D	524	4.9
Primary forest products	13,539	D	1,600	10.6	I	37	0.3
Lumber and wood products except furniture	7,160	I	11	0.2	I	347	4.8
Pulp, paper and allied products	14,111	D	722	4.9	D	432	3.1
Chemicals and allied products	23,257	D	700	2.9	D	920	4.0
Petroleum products	4,876	I	9	0.2	D	49	1.0
Stone, clay and glass products	10,629	I	149	1.4	D	594	5.6
Coke	4,812	D	607	11.2	D	265	5.5
Metals and products	7,561	D	1,339	15.0	D	563	7.4
Motor vehicles and equipment	21,255	I	1,105	5.5	D	332	1.6
Waste and scrap materials	8,973	D	654	6.8	I	543	6.1
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	7,524	D	1,092	12.7	D	303	4.0
All other carloads	59,416	I	2,792	4.9	D	1,170	2.0
LCL traffic	178	D	89	33.3	I	33	18.5
Total Cars Loaded	377,807	D	18,218	4.6	D	11,532	3.0
Corresponding week of 1983	396,025						

	1984	1983	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (46 weeks)	18,182,526	16,798,521	I 8.2
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
45 weeks ended November 10	(rev) 804.4	720.7	(rev) I 11.6
Week ended November 17	17.2	17.6	D 2.3
46 weeks cumulative	821.6	738.3	I 11.3

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